



PUBLIC COMMENTS

[The National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service](#) has solicited input from the public about the topics under its mandate since January 2018. Individuals have shared their views by posting comments on the Commission [website](#), emailing info@inspire2serve.gov or national.commission.on.service.info@mail.mil, submitting comment cards at public events, or mailing letters. These public comments supplement research efforts and are one of many factors under consideration as the Commission deliberates its recommendations to the Congress, the President, and the American people.

The Commission is committed to transparency and openness with the public. With that in mind, the Commission will be posting comments received from the public on its website at regular intervals. This document covers all public comments received during the month of May 2019. Future comments will be released on roughly a monthly basis.

There are a few facts about these comments that are important to understand.

- Public comments are posted in the order received with the most recent comment being listed last.
- The comments may address questions or topics posed by the Commission. The views expressed in comments reflect those of the individual or organization who commented and do not represent the official views of the Commission or the federal government.
- Comments are not nationally representative. Additionally, there is no limit to the number of comments a single individual or organization may submit.
- Although the Commission's initial request for comments published in the Federal Register expired (September 30, 2018), the Commission extended the submission of comments until December 31, 2019.

The National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service posts comments received in their entirety. The Commission applies redactions in limited circumstances to personally identifiable information, such as personal email address and phone numbers. The Commission reserves the right to redact language that poses a threat to individuals. Posting of public comments does not constitute an endorsement of any views expressed therein or of the content of any external links that members of the public have included in their comments.

The Commission welcomes comments from the public on any aspect of the Commission's mission and feedback on the staff memorandum released prior to the Commission's public hearings. Please submit your comments at <https://inspire2serve.gov/content/share-your-thoughts> by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on December 31, 2019.

Date	Comment
5/1/2019	All American citizens should be a part of the selective service system and register for the draft. Furthermore, if immigrants want to become an American citizen, they should ne afforded the opportunity by joining our military after background checks.
5/2/2019	SOS America Advisory Board Member here, Jamison Drapeau, age 23, we just concluded our monthly conference call and wanted to jointly voice our humble opinion that all young men, (voluntary for women) should serve one year in uniform in an augmentation to the selective service program. As a millennial myself, I truly believe that I could benefit from our proposed campaign. This is a call to action for young men and women, ages 18-25, to serve ourselves and our country. Thank you.
5/2/2019	Women should not be drafted with the highest rate of sexual assault (20k assaults) from groping to rape. No woman should be drafted and on top if that the worse case raped while serving our country. Before women are drafted then they should be safe to serve. Period.
5/2/2019	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the subject of the Selective Service system.</p> <p>The Selective Service registration process currently fails to accommodate registrants who have conscientious objections to any form of involvement in military activities.</p> <p>This is a violation of a human right that is protected by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Articles 2, 18, and 19). The United States of America is a signatory to this international human rights treaty.</p> <p>The Selective Service registration system should be abolished; all outstanding penalties should be overturned; and no one of any age or sex should be required to register for the draft going forward. However, if the system is continued, then it must include a specific accommodation for people of conscience.</p> <p>Coerced national service is an unnecessary violation of individual freedom. There will be plenty of qualified applicants for national service, of all types, if the conditions of such service meet reasonable standards.</p> <p>I volunteered to serve in the Peace Corps, twice, and completed two tours of duty. I was motivated by the opportunity to serve my country in accordance with the dictates of conscience.</p> <p>The ranks of any type of national service can be filled by ensuring that those who serve are adequately rewarded while they complete their missions, and are also adequately supported when they re-enter general society.</p> <p>Daniel Jenkins</p>
5/4/2019	I believe the Selective Service System is an essential program that provides the basic freedom of speech that is greatly upheld by our constitution ;in terms of the persons right to appeal a decision of being drafted should that circumstance present itself as it has done during the Viet Nam War era.

5/5/2019	<p>A lot of servicemen and women, me included, discovered discipline and an ordered life. No doubt that many of us would have turned out much differently if we had continued on the path we were on. Thanks to the USAF I received a college degree and have enjoyed what I would like to think of as a useful life. So many of our teens today are aimless and are living as if they have no future with the expected results of what we see today. YES! Restore the draft and save as many of these young folks as possible through military discipline and purpose.</p>
5/5/2019	<p>I am a civilian volunteer with the Selective Service System. I work to be a strong advocate of the system, as I believe service to your country to be one of the most honorable decisions a citizen can make.</p> <p>The world has changed greatly in my lifetime. Maintaining basic ideals has become more and more difficult for our younger people. Acting for the greater good broadens a person's horizons in a way that nothing else can. The military provides an opportunity for young men and women to be part of something much greater than themselves, and to advance themselves as people and as citizens.</p> <p>My husband was a Vietnam veteran. He knew he would be drafted, so he volunteered to join the US Navy. He would have been the first to tell you that he was a spoiled child when he joined, and that the Navy made him a man. I think every person would benefit from military training, and I'm sorry that I didn't have the opportunity to serve myself.</p> <p>For the past 100 years the wars fought by the United States have been primarily on foreign soil. It's easy to forget that war can begin anywhere, at any time. We have an obligation to be prepared for that contingency. Without the ability to quickly mass troops even a county as powerful as ours can be destroyed. We must be prepared to defend it at any cost. The Selective Service System is an invaluable part of our defense strategy. It should be strengthened for the good of everyone.</p> <p>Regards,</p> <p>Christine Stevens</p> <p>Region 1, State of Michigan Area 003, [REDACTED]</p>
5/6/2019	<p>I think a two year mandatory service would be incredibly valuable to all young Americans. It would instill national pride, give everyone an appreciation for the effort and sacrifice required to keep America free, and it would give young Americans a foundation of discipline, respect, and hard work that will serve them well in life. These two years would also give young people the opportunity to learn about and explore potential future career paths that they otherwise would not have considered.</p>
5/6/2019	<p>The idea of selective service violates the American ideals of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Due to its violation of American men's rights, it should not only be immediately abolished, but those already registered should have all obligations terminated. If this is too unreasonable, both men and women are to be armed. They are to assume the same obligations as men. Men are not expendable.</p>

5/7/2019	As a conscientious objector to military service, I feel that the military draft is no longer a necessary component of US national security. We haven't had a military draft in this country for years now, and it isn't necessary. Rather than wrestle with the issue of whether or not we should include women in the draft registration process, I believe it would be in our best interests to discontinue registration for the draft for both men and women. We already have opportunities for participation in public service through Vista, Americorps, and the Peace Corps. Thank you. Richard Zechiel
5/8/2019	Hello. From a man's perspective. It has been very unfair to men for the past 40 years. Now is an opportunity for women to finally be included in this when they should have been included for the past 40 years. If the service continues then as General Darpino said, it needs to include both sexes. I know men are seen as disposable and I guess always will be, but now that women are permitted in combat positions it seems unfair only to draft men and not women. I hope you don't make this volunteer for women to register in the future but continue it being mandatory for men. I am happy Judge Miller finally recognized this but sad he did not issue an injunction. I feel sad though that this will probably be determined politically and culturally rather on justice. If the selective service continues please remember it should have never been 49% of the population required to possibly die alone.
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5/8/2019	A military draft or draft contingency is still necessary today! The world is less stable today than the time I served in Vietnam. No Question. Modifications to the Selective Service are necessary to include all Americans especially at this time when gender equality is being demanded. If and when a draft is deemed necessary, No One, No son or daughter of a politician should be able to avoid the draft. No One should be able to pay, bribe or otherwise avoid the draft. The level of pride and patriotism in America has drastically declined in my view. I sincerely hope that this change can be made for the overall health of our country.

5/8/2019	<p>Simply stated, the selective service system needs to be immediately modified to include all women, and have them register just as men, backdating this to the exact same date as required by men to have registered. This must be applied to women in the same exact manner, regardless, for eligibility in plying to al Federal Jobs and for Federal programs, just the same as men. Since everyone is in the business of a false equality, then America MUST provide the same exact opportunity to be killed in combat the same as men. In the current form, the selective service program is wholly discriminatory to men without the inclusion of women. It has become absolutely unconstitutional. No citizen may elect to be afforded a freedom to choose, while others cannot. This rule of law and interpretation can be fund through every SCOTUS, Federal, State, etc., legal interpretation and the precedent are too numerous to list. A simple lexis-nexus search will yield volumes. Lastly, as a two separate war combat infantryman, who has shared more than enough of the burden in closing with, and destroying the enemies of our Great Republic, I find it sickening the servants of America (the elected) have not practiced what they have preached in terms of being equal. If this is the road the unelected bureaucrats and amateurs want, to the destruction of our Armed Forces, then we must be all in, or all out. God hates a coward.</p> <p>For the Republic,</p> <p>Aaron Matheny Combat Infantryman Veteran OP DS/DS OEF/OFS</p>
5/8/2019	Hi there, just became aware of your blog through Google, and found that it is really informative. Im going to watch out for brussels. Ill be grateful if you continue this in future. Lots of people will be benefited from your writing. Cheers! deggfeegddgg
5/8/2019	Magnificent site. Plenty of useful information here. I'm sending it to some friends ans additionally sharing in delicious. And certainly, thanks in your sweat! dddadcefkgeb

5/10/2019

Hello Mark. I read your article in spring World View and decided it would be good to share this with the presidential candidates. I listed you as a contact. I hope that this is ok. My RPCV spouse, Anne Fitzgerald, says she knows you and thinks you will be in agreement. the letter is below

Brian Lloyd, [REDACTED], Santa Rosa, CA [REDACTED] 5 May 2019

To the Honorables: Michael Bennet, Joe Biden, Cory Booker, Pete Buttigieg, Julian Castro, John Delaney, Tulsi Gabbard, Kirsten Gillibrand, Mike Gravel, Kamala Harris, John Hickenlooper, Jay Inslee, Amy Klobuchar, Wayne Messam, Seth Moulton, Beto O'Rourke, Tim Ryan, Bernie Sanders, Eric Swalwell, Donald Trump, Elizabeth Warren, Bill Weld, Marianne Williamson, Andrew Yang

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Thank you all for offering your candidacy for the Office of President in the coming 2020 election. By your records, you are all aware of the challenges and rewards of public service. I am writing to ask you to help bring the rewards of public service to America and all Americans by adding your support for Universal Public Service. The fractious actions of the current administration have caused our country to be more divisive and confused about how to "make things better". Here are some of the ways that a Universal Public Service program will help:

1. Shared identity. Working together across class, region, ethnic barriers to build / preserve America.
2. New awareness of America's strength through shared conversation, work and planning.
3. Pride of ownership for the new America.

Universal Service is not a new Idea. As a Quaker, I volunteered for two years of Alternative Service to fulfill my obligations to this country. (I worked for the State of Vermont to introduce and begin the enactment of the Vermont Land Use and Planning Law, "Act 250".)

Mark Gearan, a Return Peace Corps Volunteer, has been a champion for Universal Service for many years. He and his staff will be very happy to talk with you. I am including his article from the current issue of World View, the magazine of the National Peace Corps Association. You will see that much valuable work is already in motion for Universal Service. Build on it, please. There is still much work to be accomplished. A presidential campaign debate is a good place to build a national conversation.

With a program of Universal Public Service we can create new strong friendships, strong communities and a shared vision for a vibrant and unified America.

Thank you,
Brian Lloyd

5/10/2019	<p>Hello Mark. I read your article in spring World View and decided it would be good to share this with the presidential candidates. I listed you as a contact. I hope that this is ok. My RPCV spouse, Anne Fitzgerald, says she knows you and thinks you will be in agreement. the letter is below</p> <p>Brian Lloyd, [REDACTED], Santa Rosa, CA [REDACTED], 5 May 2019</p> <p>To the Honorables: Michael Bennet, Joe Biden, Cory Booker, Pete Buttigieg, Julian Castro, John Delaney, Tulsi Gabbard, Kirsten Gillibrand, Mike Gravel, Kamala Harris, John Hickenlooper, Jay Inslee, Amy Klobuchar, Wayne Messam, Seth Moulton, Beto O'Rourke, Tim Ryan, Bernie Sanders, Eric Swalwell, Donald Trump, Elizabeth Warren, Bill Weld, Marianne Williamson, Andrew Yang</p> <p>=====</p> <p>Thank you all for offering your candidacy for the Office of President in the coming 2020 election. By your records, you are all aware of the challenges and rewards of public service. I am writing to ask you to help bring the rewards of public service to America and all Americans by adding your support for Universal Public Service. The fractious actions of the current administration have caused our country to be more divisive and confused about how to "make things better". Here are some of the ways that a Universal Public Service program will help:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shared identity. Working together across class, region, ethnic barriers to build / preserve America. 2. New awareness of America's strength through shared conversation, work and planning. 3. Pride of ownership for the new America. <p>Universal Service is not a new Idea. As a Quaker, I volunteered for two years of Alternative Service to fulfill my obligations to this country. (I worked for the State of Vermont to introduce and begin the enactment of the Vermont Land Use and Planning Law, "Act 250".)</p> <p>Mark Gearan, a Return Peace Corps Volunteer, has been a champion for Universal Service for many years. He and his staff will be very happy to talk with you. I am including his article from the current issue of World View, the magazine of the National Peace Corps Association. You will see that much valuable work is already in motion for Universal Service. Build on it, please. There is still much work to be accomplished. A presidential campaign debate is a good place to build a national conversation.</p> <p>With a program of Universal Public Service we can create new strong friendships, strong communities and a shared vision for a vibrant and unified America.</p> <p>Thank you, Brian Lloyd</p>
5/10/2019	<p>Mark Gearan</p> <p>My email is [REDACTED] mobile: [REDACTED]</p> <p>Brian</p>

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5/11/2019	<p>No military service in my past. But, I as a thinking person and a citizen</p> <p>a) Much has been said about whether a draft registration is still needed due to the unlikely possibility of the need for an actual draft. But little has been said about why a SEPARATE registration system from other registration by voluntary needed.</p> <p>b) Jury service is something you don't "register" for-you just get called for it. You inadvertently "register" by registering to vote/drive. (By the way- this includes federal jury service-so this isn't just a state law comparison).</p> <p>c) Nobody is saying its unconstitutional to simply aggregate all the data just as used for jury service to also use for any possible future draft. No difference or decisions would need to be made at this time whether or what would be done with the data if ever a draft were needed. No promises to use to not to use the data for any possible military service requests/compulsion need be made.</p> <p>This very minimalist course of action solves constitutional problems, minimizes the costs of an entirely separate "selective service system" for taxpayers (which currently costly but un-likely if ever to have actual value), AND puts off to another day (if ever needed) the thorny and ultimately unanswerable (and likely unnecessary) questions about whether women should not only be allowed to serve but also forced to do so.</p> <p>George Weiss [REDACTED] Potomac, MD [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>

5/12/2019	<p>Is mandatory Service desirable? Yes</p> <p>As a retired Air Force officer and business consultant, I commend the SOS America initiative as a part, hopefully, a big part, of a solution to create new pipelines to Service. We support the premise that Universal National Service is needed, and hope you will recommend in your report a path to implement a National Service program.</p> <p>As General John Borling, our Chairman, has testified before you, we support the need to expand the opportunities for military service to all Americans. We do not recommend changing the current AVF. Our program would add a military experience in Non-Combatant roles for ages 18-25 in a small unit of young people whose physical and mental requirements would be based on the ability to take care of themselves. This new pipeline would expose a large segment of the population to military training and opportunities to serve. It could motivate those with Critical skills to volunteer for the AVF to complete a service requirement.</p> <p>It falls to the Commission to be courageous and advocate the inclusion of such a service mechanism in the final report. National polling is most favorable. The exhortation remains: It takes effort and sacrifice to help the country endure and prosper. We cannot just cling to the efforts of a few but must seek societal investment in an America of promise.</p> <p>Dean Hess </p>
5/12/2019	<p>How can the US increase Participation in Military, National and public Service?</p> <p>“Increasing awareness among young Americans and lessening the Civil-Military Divide”</p> <p>Commission Members and Staff: I am Dean Hess (Colonel, USAF-ret), Senior Advisor to SOS America (Service over Self). www.sosamerica.org.</p> <p>As a retired Air Force officer and business consultant, concerned about the need for continuing renewal of our country, I commend the SOS America initiative as a part, hopefully, a big part, of the solution to lessening the Civil-Military Divide. We support your premise that Universal National Service is needed, and hope you will recommend in your report a path to implement a National Service program.</p> <p>As General John Borling, our Chairman, has testified before you I want to emphasize the need for all Americans to serve our country. Since only a small percentage of our young men and women qualify physically and mentally for the All Volunteer Force (AVF), we support the need to expand the opportunities for military service to all Americans. We do not recommend changing the current AVF. Our program would add a military experience in Non-Combatant roles for ages 18-25 in a small unit of young people whose physical and mental requirements would be based on the ability to take care of themselves versus the strenuous requirements for the AVF. Absent exemption and given demand, they would train and serve in platoons of 30, companies of 100, and respond to the mission needs of the services, guard and reserve, federal and state agencies.</p> <p>Trust in the Military is a good thing and can be expanded by implementing this cost effective use of DoD Resources. If implemented, it is our opinion this program will lessen the Civil-Military divide.</p> <p>SOS America Col (ret) Dean Hess</p>
5/13/2019	<p>How ridiculous that we are even having a conversation about this when women are not even equal in pay in this day and age. I’m disgusted at the thought of forcing young women into registering for the draft. I won’t even allow my husband to shoot a doe I find it imoral to include women or</p>

	<p>children or any species when it comes to killing. How about focusing on helping our youth in this country with education the cost is outrageous. God knows we don't need more gun carriers. Haven't you watched the news?</p>
<p>5/13/2019</p>	<p>I was watching the hearings discussing inclusion of women in selective service registration. Why not? We are a nation of infinite talent and innovation. It only makes sense to utilize civilian acquired skills to enhance military readiness. I was 14 years in the Navy Reserve Nurse Corps . I joined because it was an opportunity to use my skills for a greater good and to demonstrate my commitment as a citizen. The military afforded me many positive experiences that were carried over into my civilian career. I grew to appreciate the structure and career advancement options that were lacking in civilian life. The idea makes no sense to me that every woman in America has a life long desire for motherhood and homemaking. Women today want more for themselves and their families. The military offers job security and training that often can be transitioned into civilian jobs. Women are no different than men in that sometimes the military is the safest and most stable environment they have ever known. Why not begin education about military service in high schools across the country? Young people are naturally inquisitive and looking for where they fit into society. The military can be proactive in presenting service as a career option. Young women may surprise you in their willingness to be away from home to gain a better future. I have no doubt in my mind that the day will come when the draft is reinstated out of necessity. As a country we are involved in multiple theaters of operation and there are not enough men to fill the needs. Multiple deployments are costing us by losing service members to PTSD, suicides and broken families. The long term aftercare of current day veterans is something no one could have predicted and for which we are unprepared. The sheer numbers of those with traumatic amputations of one or more limbs is staggering. I am not suggesting that all service members are in harm's way in every duty area. I only point out that it is difficult to think of the sufferings of those who voluntarily enlisted while able bodied individuals of either gender remain at home. I don't know that mandatory service requirement is the answer but an all American selective service registration might get people thinking about signing up rather than take the chance on being called up. We are becoming a nation of willing to let the other guy do our work for us and spend more time on virtual relationships than we do in actual person-to person interactions. I believe we are hungry for that contact and that a military career affords the chance to be a better person as well as a responsible citizen. I sincerely hope you consider including women in the selective service registration. There are many roles they can fill with skill and dedication. Please give them the chance to show that they can influence their future by the choices they make today.</p>

5/15/2019	<p>1. Yes. Protection of America from outside attackers.</p> <p>2. Respecting the military through parades and financial aid for college.</p> <p>3. Individual interests in the civilian lifestyle, activities not found in the military. It is hard to serve when one is interested in a specific college mail.</p> <p>4. Gen Cyber Camps for Cybersecurity. Create a diagram, college major to military job. More camps at more hours in more places.</p> <p>5. Yes. Many will say No thinking war is a thing of the past, thinking peace will remain, thinking that peace is the default setting of the world. Should a war go down, a volunteer only army will not yield the quantity needed to win a war.</p> <p>6. Yes. Requiring both sexes to register will benefit Woman and the country. It will benefit Woman. The idea of a male only army is based upon a sexist view of the human person. It feeds intolerance of Woman in the army, as the smaller group in numbers of people is always viewed as worse. It benefits the country. Doubles the pool of candidates are available for drafting. Stabilizes birth rates. The limitation to reproduction on the homeland is the lack of men. When more men are on the homeland, I hypothesize their will be less of a baby bust during war and less of a baby boom post war, thus allowing a more stable system.</p> <p>7. It is necessary, otherwise the amount of people needed to win a war will not be grabbed. It is valuable as the united states existing. Industry may develop machines, yet it is those on the machines who win war. It is feasible, as we have seen it work in prior eras. The anti-Goverment sentiment of the nation will make this harder to do.</p>
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5/15/2019	<p>To The National Commission on Military, National and Public Service</p> <p>Comments on the following items in the Commission mission:</p> <p>1. Does service have inherent value? If so, what is it?</p> <p>4. How can the U.S. increase participation in military, national, and public service by individuals with critical skills to address national security and other public service needs of the nation?</p> <p>7. Is a mandatory service requirement for all Americans necessary, valuable, and feasible?</p> <p>1. Among other qualities, service generates cooperation, compassion and empathy, calls on all to draw on the benevolent elements of human nature.</p> <p>4. Assuming critical skills are identified, participation could be increased by First tapping into a basic human quality that virtually everyone can easily understand, The Golden Rule as the grounded universal principle* - the quality that surely governed the actions to stop the insane massacre at My Lai, Vietnam. Second, a real and legitimate case must be made, financed, and heavily promoted. For example a non-military (we have more than enough of war!) global goal to rapidly transition to alternative energy in order to contain global climate change. Many of the critical skills are already available; qualifying applicants would readily surface as well as those willing to be trained fast-track. Third, logistics. Fourth, near constant mid-course evaluations and correctives.</p> <p>7. I do not see that a military draft is necessary, but Yes, mandatory service is valuable and feasible. Rather than a mandated military draft, has consideration been given to mandatory post high school one or two year disciplined service (either military, national and public service) structure for both young men and young women?</p> <p>* Selected examples Christianity - Do unto others as you would have them do unto you; Buddhism - Put yourself in the place of others; also harm none or have them harmed; Hinduism - treat others as you would yourself be treated; Islam - Treat others as you want to be treated; also return evil with kindness; and Judaism - Everyone is made in God's image and therefore we must treat all with humanity.</p>
5/15/2019	<p>Consider establishing a 6th branch of military service, a science, technology, engineering, mathematics, cyber branch. With liaison to civilian and DOD institutions. Establish the career pipeline for a science officer that crosses all established branches of service. Consider consolidating, the multiple service R&D sights such as Edwards, PAX River, NAVAIR, USSAMRID, DESERT, Navy Reactors, LLNL, LANL, DARPA under a joint civilian military command.</p>

5/15/2019	To increase service of the young. Is by helping parents understand more about military! All they see is my child will go to war and die. No parent wants to lose a child. Most children do not enlist because parents talk them out of it. They are scared! Fighting a war that the people you are fighting to free turn on them and kill your child. Also it needs to be a option of a trained skill! When I let my daughter enlist recruiters just tried to fill spaces. I wanted her to be in a job she wanted and could cone out making money! Why send her if she wouldn't going to get a job related. Sorry mechanic , boiler maker , or transit was not going to work . So we refused! Then they finally looked at her asvab . So she was enlisted as Intel analyst. And now 6 yrs later she has moved up the intel chain! So number one help kids find what they are good at. What they love to do. Help teach them that job. They will excel in something they love. 2 recruiters are looked option as car salesman. Bad ones. They just want numbers and your skill doesn't matter. They lie. Tell you things to sweeting the deal to sign on the line. To many are afraid because if the horror stories! Be fair, tell truth, and stand by your commitment s.
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5/15/2019	I completely oppose the Selective Service System, as it is a sexist, cruel, and outdated form of institutionalized sexism and one of the greatest violations of American men's unalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. I call for its immediate abolishment. Additionally, I demand the immediate termination of service obligations of all those who signed up for the SSS while it was still law.
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5/15/2019	Briefly, please consider requesting Congress to repeal 10 USC 1408, the Uniform Services Former Spouses Protection Act - USFSPA, 1982. The issue is - why serve a full career knowing that up to possibly 50% or more of one's solely earned military retired pay can be partitioned to a former spouse in a divorce action as their separate property when the former spouse had no contractual obligation to the federal government and the former spouse is not under a lifetime requirement to be ready to go back to active duty involuntarily !

5/16/2019	<p>Dear Commission Members,</p> <p>For the U.S. to "increase the desire for Americans, particularly young Americans, to serve" the government must create incentives that are tangible and long term. Already the USG is exploring ways to pay for college for those who serve. This can be a tremendous benefit, but one narrowly focused on people who have college debt or aspirations of higher education and inadequate funds. But an incentive with a more broad-based appeal would be a lifetime tax benefit for those who volunteer for national service. This could be in the form of a 1% reduction for every 12 months of national service in federal taxes owed to the government annually. Another option could be a lower rate for social security (FICA) or Medicare withholdings from the paychecks of those who completed a national service commitment. The exact criteria and mechanics can be worked out, but these benefit types could be calculated in real dollar terms (and some may conceivably accrue in value over time) and would have wide demographic appeal. A bold initiative of this kind might even invite the attention of citizens in the higher income brackets.</p> <p>Thank you for listening,</p>
5/16/2019	<p>I propose that the military retirement system be revised as follows.</p> <p>For every 4 years of honorable service the service member is entitled to a 10% reduction in their future income taxes for life. This can be capped at 50% for those who make the military a career.</p> <p>This will likely lead to more competition to join the service and in theory only the best will want to make a career. The incentive to keep out of trouble to earn the tax break would be high.</p> <p>No military retirement plan would be needed as the tax savings should be the incentive to make a career.</p> <p>The IRS would require some way of coding the military taxpayers account for future reduced taxes.</p>
5/16/2019	<p>I propose that the military retirement system be revised as follows.</p> <p>For every 4 years of honorable service the service member is entitled to a 10% reduction in their future income taxes for life. This can be capped at 50% for those who make the military a career.</p> <p>This will likely lead to more competition to join the service and in theory only the best will want to make a career. The incentive to keep out of trouble to earn the tax break would be high.</p> <p>No military retirement plan would be needed as the tax savings should be the incentive to make a career.</p> <p>The IRS would require some way of coding the military taxpayers account for future reduced taxes.</p>

5/16/2019

Dear My Admirable American Representatives,

I appreciate you taking the time to re-evaluate laws and societal roles that have been long changed, with few leftover cases. I am a 25 yo male, so it is unlikely the draft would even apply to me anytime soon, but I ask that you extend the draft to be inclusive of women.

It has been long instilled in me that should I be needed, I am willing to protect and serve my country and defend it from tyranny and foreign foes. The draft represents a commitment by the citizens of the United States that they will defend and protect our county by solemn oath and in return we are granted the sacred privilege of voting and in turn worthy of societal investment for my education and future home.

Many may ask for the draft to be completely undone, but I am not interested in that. The draft is a commitment to the ideals of the United States and mutual understanding that our communities will join together United to protect our homes.

There has been a long push for women to be properly recognize for their talents, ambitions, and desires. We have long accommodated these changes proudly and have benefitted greatly from including them. Now it is time for women to make the same commitments to society that men must make if we are to truly be equal.

For true respect to be given, a mutual trust and understanding is paramount to building a truly equal society.

Both men and women have long benefitted from the standing peace our nation has enjoyed and it is both our responsibilities to help return to that peace should the call to arms arise. To suggest that protection is man's sacred duty is to undo the progress of genderless equality and prevents future women from being heroic defenders of our nation. Excluding women from the draft suggests that their value only remain hidden out of sight, locked away safely at home, with hopes the men succeed.

I implore you to extend this sacred duty to our fellow American women, so that they might feel the weight of the responsibility that men have long felt and that they might feel strengthen and empowered by it over time. Let this be a challenge to their abilities and proof of their love for this country and loyalty to our mutual commitment to defending our nation.

Sincerely appreciative,

Jordan

5/16/2019

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Sincerely appreciative,

Jordan

5/16/2019	<p>Thank you for considering input from the public on this important issue.</p> <p>I feel that if the Commission decides it is necessary to continue selective service, it would be wise to include women as well. This would increase the number of people available for service, and it is important to keep in mind that different people can be assigned to different roles that are a match for their level of skill and/or physical fitness. It is my understanding that this is the conclusion that former Senator John McCain and many other high ranking officials who considered the issue came to.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my input, and thank you for the valuable work that the Commission is doing.</p>
5/17/2019	<p>I served as a U.S. Marine Officer for 5.5 years, from 2012-2017.</p> <p>Does service have inherent value? If so, what is it? As it currently stands, no.</p> <p>How does the U.S. increase the desire for Americans, particularly young Americans, to serve? It can create a system very similar to the military but in the vein of Americorps. Similar terms of service, training, and, most importantly, benefits. It should match pay scales and structure, healthcare, and GI bill benefits. There should be no extra benefits for military service.</p> <p>What are the barriers to participation in military, national or public service? Barriers are our illegal and inhumane foreign policy. If we brought our troops home, ended foreign invasions, and limited bases to within the U.S. you could easily recruit more people.</p> <p>How can the U.S. increase participation in military, national, and public service by individuals with critical skills to address national security and other public service needs of the nation? Is the military draft or draft contingency still a necessary component of U.S. national security? Absolutely not. It is blatantly unconstitutional. The Constitution clearly prohibits the federal government from securing the liberty of a citizen without cause. A war is not cause.</p> <p>Are modifications to the selective service system needed? Yes, abolish it. It is unconstitutional.</p> <p>Is a mandatory service requirement for all Americans necessary, valuable, and feasible? No, never, in any circumstance.</p>
5/18/2019	<p>How is it that a man has to register even if he is disabled and in a wheelchair just because he is a man while the healthiest women do not? This is not only injustice but insanity to me. Perhaps I am missing something. With Respect</p>
5/19/2019	<p>Hello, good morning If there is a draft there should be one similar to the NBA or NFL draft and those of who are still in college should be drafted to a military academy and get credit for time served in the military along with small deployments and help around in the military such as national guard. This idea would make those who enjoy sports or other events want to be drafted. My idea would be to include the best people for serving in the government like working in a prison or being a government staffer which is the best thing similar to S Korea and it gives young people a hands on skill to serve the public and get those who are in a different city or neighborhood a brand new different life. In addition this would save those who are</p>

	<p>forced to look at the benefits that come with it and a different lifestyle to encourage young people to serve. Thank you,</p>
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5/20/2019

Dear Selective Service Hearing Members:

Selective Service Hearing: Should Registration be Expanded to All Americans? - Arguments against expansion

1. The House of Representatives has not had a public hearing on women in combat since 1979. The Senate has not considered the issue since 1991 (except a brief meeting with officials from the Pentagon, February of 2016.)
2. Obama's Defense Secretary Ashton Carter unilaterally decided military women should be eligible for combat arms on the same involuntary basis as men. His objective was social policy (equality) and not the abiding importance of military readiness.
3. Marine Commandant General Joseph Dunford requested exceptions for Infantry and Special Ops Forces, based on tests conducted 2012 through 2015. The tests showed "that in simulated close combat tasks, all-male units outperformed gendermixed teams 69% of the time."
4. SecDef Carter denied General Dunford's request, despite test evidence indicating "gender-mixed units were less lethal during simulated combat missions attacking the enemy."
5. Texas District Judge Gary H. Miller on February 22, 2019, that the Selective Service system is unconstitutional in that it requires only males to register. The Judge used an equal protection standard because the previous administration insisted on changing the long-standing rules on women in combat. The Supreme Court (1981, Rostker vs. Goldberg) had ruled Congress could exempt women from Selective Service registration because Women were not assigned to direct ground combat units. Judge Miller overturned the Supreme Court decision, based on SecDef Carter's rationale that women could handle combat as well as men. (Someone should have suggested SecDef Carter watch "Band of Brothers.")
6. Congress could redeem itself in the eyes of the American public by reviewing the policy changes of the Obama Administration and the research produced by the Marines, documenting three years of testing. The House and Senate Armed Services Committees could conduct public hearings to ensure all testimonies are presented.
7. The primary mission of American military forces is to defend the country and its interests. The Selective Service is designed to provide necessary manpower for

combat operations mobilized during a major military emergency. There are many areas in the military where women have served their country. Combat requires strength and endurance; it should be limited to men. Most women cannot meet combat arms standards; most men can.

The Military should not be subject to equal opportunity/employment standards as the Civilian sector is. Not everyone should serve just because they might want to do so. The Military has medical standards that are disqualifying for enlistment. Social experiments should be kept in the Civilian sector and not creep into the Military, where life and death outcomes depend on male strength and endurance (Audie Murphy, one of the most decorated American soldiers of WW II, was turned down by the Marine Corps and the Navy. The Army took him, and history was made.)

May the Lord give you wisdom to make a just, deliberative decision that fulfills the military mission. (We do not need to risk our military women to capture by radical Islamists because they are not as strong to fend off the attackers. We have seen what ISIS has done to women in Syria.)

Will the Commission Recommend Co-Ed Conscription for Military or National Service?

In 2017 Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman John McCain established the "National Commission on Military, National, & Public Service." It was authorized to do a three-year study, \$45 million. In February of 2019 the commission published its first five-page memorandum, assuming the following:

a) "Women would be equally effective in combat arms units--such as, infantry if a draft were necessary, and"

(Lt Col Oliver North might have some interesting information to add to the commission's data.)

b) "The government should be empowered to deprive young people of personal freedom for reasons other than national defense."

(The Declaration of Independence declares "that we are endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness." Article 1, Section 8, of the U. S. Constitution states the powers of Congress. Forcing young people into National and/or Public Service is not under the jurisdiction of Congress. Also, Amendment X states "the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are

reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.")
(The preamble to the Constitution states "WE THE PEOPLE of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.")
(Government by the People for the People means Liberty for the People. No one should consider depriving our young people of the liberty to choose their paths in life under a government mandated National and Public Service program.)
The National Commission's February Staff Memorandum goes on to suggest ways to ensure compliance: punishments, sanctions, ineligibility for government benefits or employment, fines or imprisonment. "a well-structured mandatory service program would require a system to monitor participation." --page 5.
(This coercion is not Liberty; it is Tyranny. The final statement of The Declaration of Independence states" And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor." Our Founding Fathers (56 men) signed the Declaration, willing to risk all for Liberty. The torch of liberty must be passed from one generation to another, or it will be extinguished.)
I do hope you will consider the sacrifices of our Founding Fathers and subsequent generations and preserve Liberty by determining a mandatory National and Public Service program is not necessary for a free people.
Sincerely,
H. Ruth Glenn
(Mrs. Thomas G. Glenn)
[REDACTED]
Lakewood, Colorado [REDACTED]

5/20/2019

Dear Commission members,

With the recent decision to open combat positions in the U.S. armed forces to women, the morality and rights of religious freedom around Selective Service registration have returned for public scrutiny in public hearings, in the courts, and in Congress. While much of the debate has focused on issues of gender-will young women be required to register?-the problems with draft registration are extensive and worthy of more thorough consideration.

It always has been the responsibility of churches, faith communities, and pastors to serve as stewards and shepherds of conscience. The renewed interest in draft registration and the possibility of a mass registration of young women provide a perfect opening to initiate or deepen these discussions.

Sojourners, a Christian evangelical organization, has a long history of promoting a thoughtful and intelligent U.S. foreign policy built on the principles of peace, diplomacy, communication, civilian solidarity across national lines, reconciliation, restorative justice, and responding to those in need.

Beginning with our anti-war efforts in the 1970s, we have brought together powerful allies who shared our belief that our nation needs to re-orient our foreign policy from unilateralism and militarism to multilateralism, cooperation, and shared responsibility. Drawing from the language and values of faith, we have successfully convinced key faith constituencies that issues like how we address terrorism, conflict prevention, and broader foreign policy concerns should be treated as "moral values" issues.

Sojourners addresses the questions on Selective Service with three key points:

1. Selective service registration impedes religious liberty and freedom of conscience. Sojourners fully supports and recognizes the right of individual conscientious objection to bearing arms and the right to be free of coerced participation in militarism and war. Sojourners supports the total disestablishment of the Selective Service System, including elimination in personnel and functions. Short of this, Sojourners supports allowing for self-identification as a conscientious objector at the point of registration as a key component of defending religious liberty.

Sojourners believes that in an age of continued war and terrorism, which dramatically affect civilian populations, every Christian must faithfully consider conscientious objection.

For many people of faith and people of conscience, questions around Selective Service registration are not new, and, ethically speaking, nothing is different now that women are considered as part of the equation.

For many, the questions around Selective Service registration have long been ones of preparation for war, militarization of our communities, and coercion of individual conscience. Despite attempts to trivialize registration ("It's just registration, it's not the draft"), the primary purpose of registration is to be prepared for war. Lawmakers, past presidents, and the Supreme Court have all affirmed this position.

5/20/2019

Peter Jesella, Vietnam-era veteran, joined Air Force medical field rather than being drafted.

This morning I commented on my disappointment that the Interim Report had no reference to the idea of moving initial registration to 17th birthday for an on and off one-year conversation on the commissions second mandate of, I quote: "increasing participation in military, national, and public service as a means to strengthen our nation". This bill also proposed that at 18th birthday basic feedback of yes, no, or maybe to "serious consideration of voluntary or contracted service would be required". Every year much realistic data would be gathered about the next voting age generations views on the "ethos" of our nation's wellbeing. Maybe allowed for consideration up to 25th birthday. I hope the commission can get input from experts on this uncomfortable requirement.

Another critical consideration if this second mandate that Congress will consider is changing the name of the Selective Service System to better reflect its new mission. After 9/11 President Bush challenged Americans to perform two years of service, in Executive Order 13254 called for "Inventory of Federal Service Opportunities and Regulatory Barriers to Community and other service activities." He also had his staff create the "USA Freedom Corps Network".

Dated December 16th,2002, a White House letter from H. Christopher Bartolomucci stated: "On behalf of Counsel to the President Alberto R. Gonzales, regarding the Selective Service System and Participatory Citizenship System" My suggested name change. This was the 1% reply from the 100 letters I sent to staff at the White House referencing above info on 13254 and USA Freedom Corps Network, old idea of moving registration to 17th birthday, and my name for replacing the Selective Service System, its primary mission, and so its title. In the early 1980's I obtain many more letters from the Reagan Administration about this 1979 bill and Congressman Leon Panetta's bill proposal like the commission's work, which died upon arrival, with no support from Reagan Administration, Democratic Leadership.

5/20/2019	<p>Peter Jesella, Vietnam-era veteran, joined Air Force rather than being drafted. At hearings in Los Angeles I spoke and submitted detailed information about a House bill from 1979 that outlined significant changes to the Selective Service System, very similar to the commission's mandate.</p> <p>My verbal focus was on the proposal to move registration to 17th birthday, for an on and off one-year discussion on what being patriotic means, especially in the voluntary performance of service in its many forms, and activities. Such as Military, AmeriCorps, Peace Corps contracted service, or local part-time community volunteerism.</p> <p>Since most youth would still be in high school the intention was for a Federal law that provided the basic framework, and resource information.</p> <p>However local high schools, education districts in every zip code across the nation would design their own syllabus and help include other youth not in high school. They both could than share the label "Government Boggy Man".</p> <p>In January I was very disappointed to review the Interim Report and not read any reference to this catalyst for a thinking conversation on patriotic contributions to a civic society. I hope my presence hear today will more strongly impress on you the importance of this highly cost-effective youth wake-up call to citizen service.</p> <p>Since 1979 I have asked leaders, professionals and institutions in various disciplines, to become aware of the nuances of this bill's intentions, with a specific reference to the proposal of moving initial registration to 17th birthday for this one-year discussion by youth. All above have provided me less than 1% feedback, great mystery to me. I hope the commission can request feedback from educators, national security, economic, social studies, etc. experts, institutions to provide a more detailed model implications of Why Not moving registration to 17th birthday for every zip code conversation.</p>
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5/20/2019	<p>May 16th 2019 Oral s atement to 9-12 AM Hearings insert after 1st Paragraph, before 2nd paragraph, added on comments spoken. PJ</p> <p>This one-year conversation for a #YouthWakeUpCall to service in #EveryZipCode, mainly in High Schools would force "opposition culture" to this new law to have to target also High Schools, local every zip code educational distracts about this spark of "Points of light" along with targeting the Congress, Federal Governments priority on this significant but cost-effective policy change of youth registration at 17th birthday.</p> <p>This one-year civic education talk on service, request at 18th birthday of yes, no, maybe to serious commitment, would be the most costeffective "New pipeline to Service fostering critical skills/thinking processes towards helping t Bridge the Military/Civilian divide.</p> <p>To me this on-ramp highwaV of required registration at 17th birthday of civic education learning hi hway, would "Spark" more "off-ramps" to service of all kinds of choices by each new generation year-afteryear.</p> <p>Registration at 17 birthday, as a New law, would be the Federal catalyst for a complex choice of conversation topics, details towards service. However any youth 10 to 16 could pro-actively explore these multi-layered websites of ed cation on civic values, civic service.</p> <p>Peter Jesella May 16th [REDACTED] Thank you</p>
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5/20/2019

4) Peter Jesella, Vietnam-era veteran, joined Air Force rather than being drafted. Congress allocates funding, unless it is a national emergency. So if the commission was to strongly outline the justification for moving male-only registration to 17th birthday and Congress did it's job and debated this in committee, on the floor in Senate, and House both the cost, and youth, adult input from across the nation would hopefully take place.

I believe the cost of moving registration to 17th birthday, encouraging high schools to take primary led, gathering data feedback from youth reactions, feedback at 18th birthday could come from the DOD recruiting budget of one-billion dollars per year, because it would enhance better military recruiting, but also our nation's national security citizen awareness needs. The bill in 1979 per Congressional Budget Office projected an AmeriCorps like program expanding to 1 million youth per year would cost a few billion dollars in new funding, which Congress often seems unwilling to support.

However, with youth between 17 and 18 discussing the civic values of AmeriCorps like programs, wanting to participate, but unable; do to lack of funding, if these youth could form a new voting block on this policy issue to target members of Congress that are unwilling to fund the billions needed, supporting candidates that do, and showing some success, I believe the next Congress would be more agreeable towards doing a detailed cost-benefit analysis on expanding AmeriCorps to the goal of onemillion youth per year of service.

When President Obama gave his first speech to Congress, he called for legislative enhancements to AmeriCorps, its department, the Corporation for National and Community Service. A Democratic Congress quickly passed these enhancements into law, however without any additional funding. Six months later when funding requests were reviewed, a very small increase passed, due to lack of strong support from the Obama Administration, leadership in Congress. If the commission were to strongly recommend moving registration to 17th birthday for this cost-effective oneyear discussion on citizen service, Congress might try to do this, without spending much money. If youth express in these one-year debates, 18th birthday feedback, the desire for expanding contracted community service, are willing to vote for candidates willing to fund, I believe it will show how American democracy is again on the path towards greatness.

Thank you
Peter Jesella, [REDACTED] & @ncmnp [REDACTED]

5/20/2019	<p>On 15 May 2019 I submitted a comment (copied after my second comment). I would like to include an additional suggestion: I suggest the addition of conscientious objector status be allowed for any who ask for it but only with other mandatory service.</p> <p>Comment sent on 15 May: To The National Commission on Military, National and Public Service</p> <p>Comments on the following items in the Commission mission:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does service have inherent value? If so, what is it? 4. How can the U.S. increase participation in military, national, and public service by individuals with critical skills to address national security and other public service needs of the nation? 7. Is a mandatory service requirement for all Americans necessary, valuable, and feasible? * * * * * <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Among other qualities, service generates cooperation, compassion and empathy, calls on all to draw on the benevolent elements of human nature. 4. Assuming critical skills are identified, participation could be increased by First tapping into a basic human quality that virtually everyone can easily understand, The Golden Rule as the grounded universal principle* - the quality that surely governed the actions to stop the insane massacre at My Lai, Vietnam. Second, a real and legitimate case must be made, financed, and heavily promoted. For example a non-military (we have more than enough of war!) global goal to rapidly transition to alternative energy in order to contain global climate change. Many of the critical skills are already available; qualifying applicants would readily surface as well as those willing to be trained fast-track. Third, logistics. Fourth, near constant mid-course evaluations and correctives. 7. I do not see that a military draft is necessary, but Yes, mandatory service is valuable and feasible. Rather than a mandated military draft, has consideration been given to mandatory post high school one or two year disciplined service (either military, national and public service) structure for both young men and young women? <p>* Selected examples Christianity - Do unto others as you would have them do unto you; Buddhism - Put yourself in the place of others; also harm none or have them harmed; Hinduism - treat others as you would yourself be treated; Islam - Treat others as you want to be treated; also return evil with kindness; and Judaism - Everyone is made in God's image and therefore we must treat all with humanity.</p>
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5/22/2019	Public service should be encouraged through positive influence; school credits, student loans, elimination of public debts, etc. Compulsory service is a form of slavery that should be illegal in our Constitutional republic. Many people including myself who grew up in a foster home were not aware of the selective service requirement and are now permanently barred from federal employment due to a mistake of ignorance. I would gladly sign up for the selective service if given the chance but due to being over 26 I am not able. Either abolish selective service or include women and allow people like myself to fix this mistake by removing the age 26 cutoff for people who knowingly did not avoid signing up for selective service.
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5/22/2019	1. Does service have an inherent value? I speak from the viewpoint of mandatory era of selective service. A time when the Vietnam War was heating up 1964 and onward. I was sent notice to appear for possibility of being drafted about 1964. Unfortunately I was born with a birth described as paralysis of the 7th facial nerve on the right side. Poor eyesight and observance by examiners classified me as 4F. I felt over the years that was an injustice to me for it did not allow me to serve my country. I was not informed of anything except my government did not want me for service. Any

	individual capable of raising a family, holding a job, and serving Our Lord and Master is capable of giving service to their country. So yes is my answer to having inherent value. Faith, hope, and love are products of service, and if denied can cause irreparable harm to self and country.
5/23/2019	<p>1) The draft have some inherent value, as in case of extreme war, people are needed to fight for this country.</p> <p>2) The government should increase pay and benefit, equal to those of private enterprise and expand their media campaign in order to increase awareness of service.</p> <p>3) It can be a conscientious objection to the current situation. Another is benefit in case of averse event (death or disability) to the immediate as well as extended family. Another is the barrier from rejoining society after service or financial security after service.</p> <p>4) You should target your public service recruitment toward people who have specific higher education degrees depend on the need of the government.</p> <p>5) The draft is still a necessary component of the U.S national security, because we may need to deploy more manpower in case of extreme situation. But it also encourage the reckless use of our volunteer army as it open the door for the government to deploy more after exhausting the volunteer army using pretense of extreme situation.</p> <p>6) There need to be an inclusion to all able bodied member of the society who is able to join as the current men-only draft is sexist (as it hinges on the fact that woman are less capable of being a soldier than man). Also, giving women a chance to be drafted will increase equality.</p> <p>7) No, mandatory service should only be require in case of extreme situation. As a lower requirement may open the door for the government to recklessly deployed draftees to fight war as well as encourage government to join war.</p>
5/23/2019	Eliminate the age 26 cut off, many are being denied benefits and employment because of this cut off. I am just over 26 and not able to register with the selective service which is causing long term financial damages to my family.
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5/23/2019	<p>1) Service has an inherent value when done voluntarily. A good example is when volunteers for jury duty choose a starting week and a courthouse without choosing a specific trial. Voluntary jurors will be more likely to carefully weigh the facts of the case than draftees who are worried about time taken away from work destroying their next rent check.</p> <p>2) The U.S. can increase the desire for young Americans to serve by making all service voluntary including jury service. People are far more likely to want to serve in a way where a draft is not advocated.</p> <p>3) During the Vietnam war many men were discouraged from volunteering because the news said that men were drafted into the VietNam war because nobody could like to volunteer for it.</p> <p>4) Making all service voluntary including Jury service and military service is the best way to attract highly skilled people. Has any radio talk show host told you that a jury decision was incorrect because it was made by 12 people who were unable to get out of mandatory jury duty??</p> <p>5) The only reason that a military draft is still possible is because the mandatory jury duty system imposes involuntary servitude that claims that the 13th Amendment remains unimplemented. Implementing the 13th Amendment by making jury duty voluntary in 2 or more states would render it impossible to restart or maintain a military draft with its even larger amount of involuntary servitude.</p> <p>6) The Selective Service Registration currently enables students to apply for Pell Grants and even student loans without taking a written test to certify ability to perform High School Algebra or write a simple paper in English. Then students flunk out and then default on student loans. A written U.S. military ASVAB test as an alternative gateway for student financial aid should be considered.</p> <p>7) We have learned from mandatory jury duty that draftees perform very</p>
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low quality work. Many innocent men were sent to prison by drafted jurors.

If you want high quality work including victory in wars all service both military and civilian including jury service must be voluntary.

(Permission is granted to publish this comment online and in print media.)

Eric Matteson



5/23/2019	<p>No, a military draft is NOT needed. What is needed is getting out of the wars we are already in and curtailing the headlong charge into more wars.</p> <p>How to increase participation? Prove to potential enlistees that their lives are worth something by not getting into needless, destructive wars. People will fight, even the people at home, as proven in WWII, when a real need arises. If the USA keeps acting like the boy who called wolf, the country will lose even that loyalty. What is the point of loyalty to a country if human life is not valued?</p>
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5/24/2019

The Commission on Military, National and Public Service

1. How can the United States increase participation in military, national, and public service by individuals with skills critical to address the national security and other public service needs of the nation?

- Market and promote national service as a life changing opportunity that not only addresses community needs and problems but as a life-changing transformative experience that provides personal and professional skills.

- Keep service accessible to all individuals regardless of age and socio-economic status.

- o Invest public resources that address barriers on housing, transportation, child-care and cost of living by increasing living stipends.

- Continue to offer and expand national service education awards, public service loan forgiveness and GI Bill opportunities for those serving. It is an incredible incentive that has remained stagnant as education costs continue to rise substantially.

- Provide certifications and college credit during service to be used for post service opportunities.

2. What are the barriers to participation in military, national, or public service?

In the context of Opportunity Youth, the numerous barriers to participation in National Service include some of the following:

- Not knowing much about National Service and AmeriCorps service opportunities to begin with. When asking new YouthBuild students if they ever heard about AmeriCorps most individuals have no idea what AmeriCorps is, what it does and what is provided. It is only after some time has passed, are students able to articulate their contributions to helping their community through their service experience.

- If you do learn about AmeriCorps and what it does, when you conduct a cost/benefit analysis with little information on what national service provides during and after service, most people will conclude that it is probably not worth it. If you are a college graduate with incredible debt, the education award can be a drop in the bucket. If you are not certain how AmeriCorps will provide future opportunities and make you a marketable job candidate (which research shows it can and does), you'll say why do it. If you don't know of others who have served and benefitted then why would you take that risk?

- The cost of living continues to increase while resources remain stagnant or unaddressed.

- Lack of housing for service members.

- Lack of local national service position/opportunities. Many opportunities are limiting because it requires relocating, instead of being close to family and support.

- Lack of accessible and affordable child care

2. Does service have inherent value, and, if so, what is it?

- Service is transformative! Young people come to YouthBuild because they are in search of a positive change; they knock because they WANT their H.S.E. and a good job. But what they NEED is so much more. In YouthBuild they become part of a mini- community of peers who have faced and may continue to face similar obstacles and traumas. They are surrounded by caring adults that care about them, their families and the community. Some but not all, are introduced to an opportunity that they've never heard before called AmeriCorps. They become part of a national force, 80,000 a year strong! They are given the opportunity to be part of something bigger than themselves; An opportunity to learn, to serve, to lead and to be an active citizen in their community.

- o There are so many transformative YouthBuild AmeriCorps stories to share.

- For the millions of opportunity youth, who for a lack of a better term, are disconnected from school, work and ultimately their community, the term "service" is understood negatively. It's understood to be a punishment handed out to them or to others around them involved in the criminal justice system. Something that is a requirement by a judge rather than as a choice. When given the opportunity to be an AmeriCorps member they are having service positively reframed. They quickly realize that service is powerful. That they have a new sense of pride and goodness in their heart for helping others in need. When they wear that AmeriCorps "A" they are part of a national movement. We have heard from members on more than one occasion that not only do they look at their community differently, more positively, because of their service, but that the community looks at them more positively for their contributions. It helps heal and connect.

4. Is a mandatory service requirement for all Americans necessary, valuable, and feasible?

- We do not think mandatory service requirement is necessary as when things become a requirement there often is resentment for it. What we would rather see is attractive and enticing opportunities, communicated and shared broadly (reaching low-income, vulnerable and disadvantaged communities) with adequate resources which make serving worthwhile to all. It's about making the choice a no-brainer because the benefits of the opportunity outweigh the alternatives.

5. How does the United States increase the propensity for Americans, particularly young Americans, to serve?

- Implement a culture campaign which values the Gap-Year experience for young Americans.
- Utilize high profile individuals who talk about their service experience
- Increase the benefit of education award and/or loan forgiveness program
- University Matching of Education Award – Credit

Stat on Opportunity Youth:

In the United States, 4.9 million young people between 16 and 24 are neither in school nor employed. About half are living in poverty.

5/24/2019

With the private sector eliminating pensions it's a sound idea to give newly hired federal employees an option on the type of retirement benefit they will receive (FERS package or straight 401K), otherwise recruitment will be impossible.

5/24/2019	<p>Answers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Yes. The inherent value is patriotism & nationalism.2. Good offers for education while in the service, living standards, good benefits.3. Bad political policies.4. Give the right salary equitable to his/her skills with future increments.5. Yes, the draft is still important to the national security.6. Of course, modifications/amendments implies future promising changes.7. Mandatory requirements is an S.O.P. unless it provides some exceptions.
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5/24/2019	<p>1.Does service have inherent value? If so, what is it? Yes, definitely. In the case of the military, you grow up faster and are opened up to a whole new world instead of the small piece you have been part of.</p> <p>2.How does the U.S. increase the desire for Americans, particularly young Americans, to serve? I would say make it mandatory for all Americans to serve 2 years of some public service after they complete school. For those going to college that would be 4 years after high school, for others that would mean a 2 year trade school. After completion, the person would serve in public service, hopefully close to what they went to school for). That service could be in the military, or some other government program. For each year serving in public service a year of their schooling would be paid for. There would have to be some type of cap put on education or they will just continue increasing costs, perhaps set a cap on what is paid back and then schools would have to compete.</p> <p>3.What are the barriers to participation in military, national or public service? I think mostly that it is not understood and there is bad information floating around. The 2 years mandatory service would solve that.</p> <p>4.How can the U.S. increase participation in military, national, and public service by individuals with critical skills to address national security and other public service needs of the nation? Again, the 2 years mandatory service under the trade/subject you went to school for.</p> <p>5.Is the military draft or draft contingency still a necessary component of U.S. national security? Yes definitely. Public service should be mandatory and military a part of that public service. Even if mandatory public service is not made mandatory, military should be.</p> <p>6.Are modifications to the selective service system needed? Yes, have all Americans in it after their 2 or 4 year schooling as discussed above.</p> <p>7.Is a mandatory service requirement for all Americans necessary, valuable, and feasible? Yes, again see above for mandatory public service. Almost all other large countries have mandatory service for their citizens, so should the US.</p>
5/24/2019	<p>What If New Employees Were Offered a Bunch of New Benefits?</p> <p>The government cannot get enough qualified applicants now. This partially due to the potential benefits cuts and instability in whole of the government. They are looking elsewhere and getting better pay and benefits.</p>

5/24/2019	<p>I proudly served in the U.S. AIR FORCE , my father and my brother and my son also served our country in the military. I retired from the U.S. POSTAL SERVICE. I now volunteer in service to the MEPS to our young people entering now military branches. I have many many family and friends who believe and trust in our military and in our country.</p> <p>It is a different time and era from when I and many of my family and friends served our country. I understand that in today technology and advancements we want the most skilled people serving our country and we have the best challenging for the top jobs. I didn't have a high school education much less any college and I feel very fortunate that I was able at that time to join and be a part of something greater and bigger than me. It taught me respect and a desire to go beyond myself. I truly loved and remember the things I learned by serving my country. I went to school while serving in the military and after fulfilling my duties I went on further and got a college degree and other training.</p> <p>I believe that there are many more young people in our country that would benefit in serving our country if only there were programs that would allow and given a chance beyond their circumstances. I think back to many of our heros who served and gave the ultimate in service to our country. We as a nation need to find ways to keep from loosening many of our future heros and proud young adults. We must find ways to strengthen our resources and grow together as a proudfull nation.</p> <p>Thank you for all that you do also in your service to our country and hopely we will all make and come together in our efforts to save and build on our future.</p>
5/24/2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Service has inherent value. It is other-focused, not self-focused, requires humility and promotes mutual respect. President Kennedy admonished, "Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country." Its impact comes, not from President Kennedy's charisma or statesmanship, but from moral (Biblical) principles such as, "Love your neighbor as yourself" and "not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others." The media is replete with examples of evidences that "In helping others, you help yourself", to include: "scientific benefits", "physical benefits", "intrinsic benefits". Helping others is even reputed to be "the secret to happiness." Our country has strayed far from the service-oriented mindset. People in "the 'service' industry" are not treated respectfully. The work is seen as undesirable, menial, degrading. 2.Increase young Americans' desire to serve by creating opportunities through which they can experience the benefits of serving. When they graduate from (or drop-out of) High School, MAKE them learn by serving; as with "the draft". Many will choose to serve in the Military. Means other than the Military exist by which to create opportunities to serve. The Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s-40s, the Peace Corps and AmeriCorps are examples of this. 3.Barriers to participation in military, national or public service, if they exist, are in the minds and hearts of individuals in a society that encourages the question, "What's in it for me?"; glamorizes, rewards and promotes hedonism. 4.The U.S. could increase participation by individuals with critical skills to address national security and other public service needs of the nation by having a presence in the places where the people are seeking information and knowledge (e.g. high school, community, college, university job fairs, on-line venues such as "Linked-In", etc.). USA Jobs is on-line, but requires people to go to it. Government Agencies need to show an interest in others by reaching out to them., as the military does. It also must be recognized that government service is not for everyone. It takes a special breed to put up with the multiple layers of red tape and being yanked around by "Congress" (those we have elected to serve on our behalf) that come with "public service". 5.Not qualified to comment about draft still a necessary component of U.S. national security system.

	<p>6. Not qualified to comment about modifications to selective service system. I am female Veteran but would not want females included in a military draft.</p> <p>7. Mandatory service requirement for all Americans is advisable, valuable, and feasible. A standard "service draft" for High School graduates (and drop-outs) could promote "other-centeredness" and self-awareness and break-down walls of loneliness and isolation built by self-centeredness, self-preservation, self-aggrandizement that now pervading our nation.</p>
5/24/2019	<p>Mandatory service is a good idea: military and non military options should be included.</p> <p>But the idea of removing pensions is a nonstarter. The pension is a big incentive to continuing in government service as opposed to jumping ship. If maintaining and attracting a strong, motivated workforce is important then the pension must remain.</p>
5/24/2019	<p>Comments regarding Staff Memo "Public Service" - Having had over 30 years of experience as a federal manager, I can state emphatically that our hiring systems are as clunky and disincentivizing as I have seen anywhere. While it is a great idea to have a universal system, the job announcement and application system within USAJOBS pushes applicants and even hiring officials away. Reviewing a job announcement is painful for even me as a hiring manager. The first thing should be what the job is about and what the agency needs are. All the other regulatory stuff does not belong in a page that is looking to get applicants to throw themselves at our job opportunities. Next, I believe that while we want to provide fair opportunities to veterans, we often allow veterans to appear highly qualified for positions that they are clearly not. My agency has hired a lot of veterans in many positions. But we have also had to cancel many job offerings because unqualified veterans do not allow non-veterans that are otherwise highly qualified to even appear on a referral. Lastly, people who come to public service do so not to make loads of money. They come because they want to be public servants and enjoy being part of something great. Please do not take away benefits, especially retirement benefits that are a reward for their years of public service. Respectfully.</p>
5/24/2019	<p>Use Special Pay Tables more often - for example in the IT Pay Bands the tables stop at GS-11. The special rate table should go all the way to 15 or should be an additive/multiplier amount to the local GS salary to make certain position more competitive with the local markets.</p> <p>Use DOL compensation data to right price positions.</p>

5/25/2019	Hello. I have been following your hearings. Honestly it seems most of the time that the debate is all womanly centric. Women's rights, women's equality, women's place in society, WOMEN. WOMEN, WOMEN. Would it be so wrong to ask once what about how unfair the selective service has been to MEN over the past 40 years? Where have been the hearings the past 40 years? Nowhere. For men are seen as disposable and expendable. Women should have been registering the past 40 years as well but especially since January 1, 2018. When you submit your report next year nothing will happen unless the Supreme Court decides. I doubt women will ever be required to do anything honestly. The Congress will fight to keep it all male, as evil as this is but if that by law becomes impossible will do away with the whole system before women are involved. Even if this risks national security. I speak as one of the disposables and expendables who registered against my conscience many years ago in order to respect the law and not to bear all the penalties for not doing so. Many of us were hurt in more ways than one by this system although never complained. The special sex has always been protected. Rights without responsibilities of course is a trademark. Thanks for the chance to comment and hope all is well. With Respect.
5/25/2019	My concern is. I have paid on my life insurance for at least 20 years. Can you tell me why I will pay double the life in insurance premium when I retire. Is this a fact?
5/25/2019	My concern is. I have paid on my life insurance for at least 20 years. Can you tell me why I will pay double the life in insurance premium when I retire. Is this a fact?
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5/25/2019	My concern is. I have paid on my life insurance for at least 20 years. Can you tell me why I will pay double the life in insurance premium when I retire. Is this a fact?
5/25/2019	Please institute a full draft with no deferments or exceptions. Mandatory 100% including sons and daughters of wealth privilege and power. We would never fight another war again.
5/25/2019	Mr. Heck what about proposing an ALL WOMEN DRAFT and no men whatsoever to make up for the past 40 years of the harm done to men? Is not fair fair?
5/26/2019	We should never have a draft again. An incentive to attract military recruits is to offer them life insurance, healthcare, college tuition them and their family for ever. Yes, it will be expensive, but it is the cost finding people to defend our nation. So if the soldier dies in battle, or dies of suicide, or old age, their family is cared for in at least that way. Currently there are so many barriers to access these sometimes benefits. There is a bitter taste in the mouth of veterans who struggle to get these benefits. It sours, not just them, but their families. On the other hand, imagine if entire families went to college, or got access to healthcare because one of their parents served the military. They would be grateful, a walking positive billboard, that perhaps too would join the military. I have seen so many veterans struggle with healthcare, or just trying to survive with menial jobs. The bill should not be hard to pass. Today almost everyone supports veterans, put it to a vote. The military and veterans will truly know if the country has their back. Last, the transition from military to civilian life is difficult, so plans should be in place for that soldier to start their career. For me it was to become a doctor, after being enlisted; no one was available to help me with the transition. By a miracle, I made it. Few politicians have experience with military life. They do not know that the entire family is in the military, when the soldier moves, the family moves. When the soldier is suffering far away in the Middle East, their family is suffering at home too. It is heartbreaking to see that you have to be a specific percent of service connected disability before some benefits kick in. In the state that I live, the veteran must be 90 percent service connected to get education benefits fir children.

	<p>The state is being generous, it would be better if the federal government gave military families education assistance. The idea of universal healthcare, education, and life insurance can be first experimented on the men and women who have out their life on the line. Today, I work at the veteran affairs, helping my brothers and sisters. The system is so broken, that I have to set myself on fire to keep my siblings warm. The problem there is that zero efforts exist to retain talent by management. In fact, doctors/nurses are treated as if they were easily replaceable, they are not. Sometimes years, go by before an employee is replaced and this hurts veterans, it hurts wait times, it hurts the bottom line. In my case, I do not have enough secretaries, nurses or exam rooms, in my department, so calls do not returned for days, patients are not seen timely, so veterans get upset and staff is stressed/unhappy. This has led to staff leaving, doctors leaving, and soon I will leave too. The nail on the coffins, They told us there was no money for secretaries or nurses; yet 2 doctors got hired this month.</p>
5/26/2019	<p>I was recently visiting Cape Cod where I bumped into Steve Barney at a scenic overlook. We talked and discovered mutual interests in service to our country. I'm a Navy Vietnam veteran. We discovered we had mutual interests, one of which was the idea of a national service to country.</p> <p>Unfortunately I see a great country coming apart at the seams in part from a lack of knowledge of other people and their hopes and desires. This needs to change.</p> <p>One way of improving our outlooks is with a better understanding of the diverse country we live in. How better to do this than with a universal service to country where one would meet and help people from all areas with different backgrounds, religious beliefs, races, viewpoints, experiences, etc.</p> <p>This "service" could be military. But could also be based on a Works Progress Administration. Those involved could earn credits and financial help for college and trade schools.</p> <p>Right now we sometimes see 50 states moving in 50 directions to the detriment of the country. The individual states in some cases are pulling apart at the seams. A universal service could be a positive way to reverse this trend.</p> <p>Lewis Runaldu.</p>
5/27/2019	<p>Absolutely not. The military is out of control and irresponsible. Wars are eternal and fought for big oil and billionaires. You are droning innocent people and torturing. I would leave the country before I would let the military destroy my children.</p> <p>If you would end the wars, you wouldn't need a draft. Given the awful future our kids face, there are thousands of them who could benefit from the discipline, skill training, and home away from home the peaceful military used to provide. Today's war mongering and murder for profit military is the last place I would recommend.</p>

5/27/2019	<p>My name is Mark McElwee Jr. I served in the US Army and it changed my life for the better. I have been out for years but have been willing to serve again. I miss it. The friendships. The challenges. The personal satisfaction of completing the task at hand. I am now 49 and more mature and in better all around shape then I was when I joined originally. I see a lot of forums from all branches asking how they get this generation to be successful in the military. I have seen instructors question what is wrong with society that these kids can't hack. I would argue that bringing back older service members that can make the physical cuts and bring the maturity to the ranks and have these kids realize that uncomfortable is just a way of life sometimes and it is just another day. I regret everyday that I left. I miss it. I believe that the saying "Beware of An old man in a profession where men usually die young. Old warriors did not get old by accident, they got old by being wise, having the right knowledge and being tough." I left with 3 mos's and have a college degree. Military, police, swat, and a police k9 instructor are just a few things that I have accomplished and continue to do.. I know there are others out there that are older but would still be willing to serve. In my experience I have dealt with recruiters that also just push older competent and worthy vets aside because they don't get the same bonuses from us that they get from recruiting younger kids. In the end I know these are my thoughts but it is Memorial Day. I just thought it was worth mentioning and something to consider.</p> <p>Email: [REDACTED]</p>
5/27/2019	<p>Mr. Heck the exclusion of women in combat was made on January 24, 2013. Should not women have therefore been REQUIRED TO REGISTER FOR THE DRAFT LIKE MEN BEGINNING THAT DAY????? Why 6 years later is this still being "discussed?" Sorry for my ignorance. Remember I am a man who has always been required to register so I would be ignorant of how it works with the special sex. With Respect</p>

5/28/2019

Dear Commissioners,

Although you have all read my three previous written submissions and the most current book on military conscription, *Free Radicals: War Resisters in Prison*, I have a few more thoughts on compulsory registration and service.

The component that compulsory registration and service requires has never been brought up in your hearings. 'Compulsory' means penalties for those who fail to comply, i.e., arrests, prosecutions, fines, prison sentences.

Have we become no more enlightened that we're still willing to jail young people for refusing the draft?

I'm not a heavy-hitter such as those expert witnesses who have testified so forcefully before you. I'm just a lifelong academic who has shepherded thousands of young people into adult lives with families and productive careers benefiting their fellow citizens.

Frankly, I won't stand by if some Selective Service system makes them register and sends them to their deaths in America's entirely senseless wars. I counsel, advice, and abet my students and others of draft age to refuse to register.

If Federal agents try to grab them anyway, I'll stand in their way to protect our youth and disable the machinery of war.

Just saying... I went to prison for the draft in the 1970s and I'll gladly do so again, to save one boy from the battlefield.

It's your duty as Americans entrusted by Congress under our Constitution to end compulsory registration, abolish Selective Service, and advocate repeal of the Military Selective Service Act.

The future of our young people, or at least a positive start to that future, is very much in your hands. Don't blow your chance at history!

Make the right choice for our future generations.

peace&freedom,
CJ Hinke

5/28/2019	We need to preserve federal benefits and retirement security, while bringing our package more in line with the current job market. I am a newly hired recent graduate in the civil service - I went to a prestigious university for a master's degree, and when compared to many of my peers I think my total compensation package was average or even a little higher, all things considered. The federal retirement pension is great benefit, but it is probably not as valued compared to a TSP/401k contribution scheme because it is not as mobile when switching employers, and millennials seem to move jobs more than anyone. However, in retirement, this pension is often the difference between poverty and comfortable standards of living- if the pension is cut, any increase in agency matching to new hires should be done through automatic contributions to TSP (i.e., so the recipient receives that money even if electing not to contribute to TSP) and a default employee contribution policy (where the employee would have to "opt out") of something on the order of 5-10%. We can't allow changes in the federal pension to result in poverty for future generations of retirees.
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5/28/2019	To me one of the barriers is the way public servants are being constantly attacked rather than appreciated for the service they provide. I've never felt such a negative environment. In order to entice individuals to work in this environment, you better offer benefits that exceed the public sector. In addition, there's not a lot of advancement when you get in the public sector. So, again, you better offer good benefits.

5/28/2019	<p>Service is a psychological tool used by entities to create commitment of people to a mission or vision in lieu of fair pay and compensation. The use of Service as a motivator for public employment is essentially telling potential employees that they will be overworked and underpaid.</p> <p>The barrier to public employment is the process of hiring which takes way too long and the negative environment fostered by Congress and the President.</p> <p>The barriers to military service are the ever decreasing percentage of the population who is familiar with anyone who has actually been in the military. Increasingly, military staffing is from fewer and fewer communities and often families where military service has run consistently over generations.</p> <p>To increase the desire for Americans to pursue government or military employment, the Government must, via its senior most leaders (Congress) have a consistent message of support and a unified vision of the future. Imagine if the CEO of Starbucks, GM or Amazon bashed their employees in the press the way our current leaders do with Government employees. They would go out of business by not having anyone to hire! Secondly, to increase pursuit of government employment, include civics education in the base curriculum. It used to be part of education but fell by the wayside, losing the chance to influence the mindset of the youth.</p> <p>Mandatory service, like in many European Countries can have a positive influence if it would be properly structured and allows for non-combatant approaches to service. It would give youth time between high school and further education to learn skills, to learn independence and to build relationships critical to future success. It could save a lot of money by trading financial aid for college for room, board and a small stipend (which they presumably would save) while gaining critically needed staff to address national issues.</p>
5/28/2019	<p>Of the plans being considered for new federal employees: I do not think the Commission should support the removal of the defined retirement benefits package or the removal/reduction of retiree health benefits. I believe that the adoption of paid parental leave would attract more young workers.</p>
5/29/2019	<p>Please do not make changes to annuity/retirement plans or access to health insurance in retirement. This would negatively affect the stability of this nation as it would negatively impact civil service, and participation in the military, national, and public service in all branches. Privatization is not the answer. Please look to northern European nations for models of civil society.</p>

5/31/2019

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5/31/2019	<p>As one who spoke vehemently against the odious institution called The Draft in the sixties, I encourage its final burial, after its implementation so long ago caused the burial of thousands of young men who deserved so much better. Their one chance to live life was exterminated, as if they were vermin, by a criminally insane desire for regime change in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. I remember the time well. That same mentality continues today in Washington DC, by most in Congress and the executive branch. As the song goes, "When will they ever learn?"</p> <p>The opportunity is at hand to prevent further moral atrocities by termination of this hideous institution. Further, it is time to eliminate any state sponsored penalties against those who may have refused to register, understanding the need to avoid future Walls of Remembrance. On this Memorial Weekend, the best honor we can give those who served is to end this monstrosity and also to exert moral pressure away from policies of national belligerence and conquest, and to a spirit of honor and reconciliation.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jon Olsen Jefferson Maine</p>
5/31/2019	<p>To: The National Commission on Military, National and Public Service, Dr. Joseph Heck, Chair From: Susan C. Morse, Educator Date: May 21, 2019 Re: National Service</p> <p>Yes, I strongly believe a mandatory service requirement for all Americans is necessary, valuable, and feasible. Here's why and how. We consider ourselves an exemplary democratic country, yet we have a lower voting rate than most other democratic societies. We also have a history of free thinking and independence, which fails to recognize the interdependence of an effective society. JFK attempted to refocus American youth to 'ask what we can do for our country'.</p> <p>Universal National Service is an exciting solution to many of our present woes. It must, however include and emphasize social well-being to the same degree as military service. Universal Service in communities, the nation, or overseas should include the fields of: health (including senior services); education (including early childhood education, new citizen integration); emergencies (due to weather, conflict); environmental restoration (restoring ecosystems, cleaning up toxic dumps; clean and sustainable agriculture; universal access to basic needs such as clean water, air, clean energy. These emphases apply both within this country abroad. We must also assure that international services address internal and external refugee problems. and conflicts due to changes in the climate.</p> <p>I also suggest that the Selective Service be renamed (it has bad connotations), and that there be a shift in the focus of some existing services, Americorps needs some improvement, but the concept is good. The Peace Corps is virtually unknown by youth, as is Teacher Corps, both of which are excellent programs. Other programs could include training doctors, health workers, pollution abatement engineers, . An Eco-Corps would be well received by many, as would a Health Corps. New programs similar to the CCC and Roosevelt's WPA, which trained artists and craftsmen, can provide lasting benefits to the country, as did those programs.</p> <p>I thoroughly support Universal National service to restore and strengthen our democracy in a time when the globe is truly under threat of chaos, due to environmental and social changes. We may be able to provide a beacon of hope to restore civility and save humanity, as we have in the past. I would be pleased to communicate with the committee further if requested.</p> <p>Susan C. Morse,</p>

	<p>██████████ Carmel CA ██████████</p>
5/31/2019	Mr. Heck why am I disposable and expendable just because I am a man? Why do I need to register for selective service even though it violates and conscience? With Respect
5/31/2019	I do consider all the ideas you've presented on your post. They're really convincing and can certainly work. Still, the posts are very brief for novices. May just you please extend them a little from next time? Thanks for the post. ffechdcfcba
5/31/2019	It's a mammoth playground built of mountains, hills, lakes, rivers, valleys, woodlands,and beaches. akcekdfaedb

5/31/2019	<p>Comment/complainant: LIH YOUNG, Ph. D. economist; reformer, advocate, activist, candidate for public offices since 1994; local- federal; Md state Comptroller,Senate; Rockville Mayor; U.S. Senate, Congress. The most urgent serious problems here and overseas: “ROBBERISM= Official misconduct-government gang-MURDER- FRAUD- CRIME- INJUSTICE NETWORKS operation” = bad guy propaganda to benefit/ promote themselves; victimize others; with endless immoral/unlawful acts; destroy freedom, fairness, democracy; continuing, on-going; expanding; penetrate every segment of our lives; inc. civic non-profit, NGO, churches, “think tanks”, educational institutions; women, minorities; nonsense studies, proposals, block grants, etc.</p> <p>Recently, PPP (P3), Public Private Partnership, have been propagandized like a new fashion; without addressing the important issues as to why ppp’s are methodically necessary, and no serious cost-benefit analyses. PPP’s have been related to serious abuses of power/resources, causing serious social issues; not just limit to a single project; but expand everywhere; local-federal-global; no separation of government and private; not even traditional business sense; in terms of input, output or profit; misuse concepts, e.g., eminence domain, “paper road”, government power/budget/bond/deficit/ taxpayers’ burden/resource; practically 100 percent input are paid by government/taxpapers; but output is 100 percent to private owner(s). No affordable housing as promised. On the contrary, more residents/renters are unjustly evicted/robbed. Examples: city town center project in Rockville, Maryland, National Academies of Science, Engineering, Medicine, and many government agencies. Please read carefully below with folder and attachments (17); very condense; serious story behind every word.</p> <p>TOP PRIORITIES: WORK TO BE DONE; SOCIAL JUSTICE IN GREAT DANGER!</p> <p>(I). Prosecute, eliminate “ROBBERISM=Official misconduct- government gang-MURDER- fraud- crime- injustice networks” operation = cruel tyranny= robbery machine; relaying, penetrating every segment of our lives; with threat, coercion, victimization, deprivation, discrimination; unjust practices, manipulation, influence; improper processing of complaints, procedures, proceedings, records, requests; bad legislative bills; unjust hidden agenda; false/ misleading excuses; divert resources for private gains; inc. private-public partnership, econ development, housing, school, transportation, abandonment of properties, paper roads.</p> <p>(II). ALERT TO THE PEOPLE= POWER TO THE PEOPLE: Too much rhetoric, false, misleading, unjust manipulation! Meaningless! Restore JUSTICE/FAIRNESS; strengthen family, education, integrity, accountability; fix “ROBBER-ISM”; NOT to benefit “Official misconduct-government gang-MURDER-FRAUD-CRIME-INJUSTICE NETWORKS” operation, which is not capitalism with liberty, freedom, democracy as we are told; continuing, on-going; expanding; penetrating every segment of our lives.</p>
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